

Message Text

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62

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY S/CCT- RAFEAREY/RPMYERS:DFF

APPROVED BY S/CCT- RAFEAREY

M- WEGAN

AF/E- MR. BARRETT (DRAFT)

OASD/ISA- MAJ. NAFTZINGER

OASD/PA- COL. BURKE

S/S-O:LRMACFARLANE

----- 051014

O 110005Z JAN 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL ASMARA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

CNO

CSA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 006754

EXDIS MILITARY ADDEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, ET, US

SUBJECT:KAGNEW II

REF: A) KHARTOUM 91 NOTAL; B) KHARTOUM 82 NOTAL; C) STATE

6090; NOTAL; D) STATE 258218, OCT 31,NOTAL; E) DAMASCUS

127; NOTAL; F) KHARTOUM 98 NOTAL; G) KHARTOUM 96 NOTAL

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1. PER FINAL SENTENCE REF C, FSO ROBERT P. MYERS, S/CCT, WILL MEET BOWIDOWICZ ON HIS ARRIVAL CHICAGO JAN 11 AT 1630 HOURS VIA PA 73. FSO EDWARD HURWITZ, S/CCT, WILL MEET STRICKLAND ON HIS ARRIVAL AT KENNEDY AIRPORT JAN 11 AT 1530 HOURS VIA PA 59 AND ACCOMPANY HIM TO SAN ANTONIO.

2. WE PLAN TO RECOMMEND TO THE TWO MEN THAT THEY ISSUE THE FOLLOWING JOINT STATEMENT ON ARRIVAL AT THEIR RESPECTIVE HOSPITALS IN ILLINOIS AND TEXAS.

3. BEGIN TEXT: WE ARE DELIGHTED TO BE BACK IN THE UNITED STATES AND TO BE REUNITED WITH OUR FAMILIES. WE WERE WELL TREATED DURING OUR DETENTION AND ARE IN BASICALLY GOOD SHAPE. NEEDLESS TO SAY, WE ARE IN GOOD SPIRITS. OUR ONLY CONCERN NOW IS FOR OUR THREE COLLEAGUES WHO CONTINUE TO BE HELD IN ERITREA. WE HOPE THAT OUR RELEASE WILL SOON BE

FOLLOWED BY THAT OF STEVE CAMPBELL, JIM HARRELL AND RON MICHALKE. WE KNOW THAT THEY AND THEIR FAMILIES WILL BE AS GRATEFUL FOR THEIR FREEDOM AS WE AND OUR FAMILIES ARE FOR OURS. END TEXT.

4. FOR KHARTOUM: WE WILL CABLE FINAL TEXT OF ABOVE STATEMENT TO EMBASSY AS SOON AS IT HAS BEEN APPROVED BY BOWIDOWICZ AND STRICKLAND. EMBASSY REQUESTED PASS FINAL TEXT TO GOS, AND TO SUGGEST THAT GOS PASS IT TO ELF AND TO PLF.

5. DEPARTMENT IS PREPARED TO MAKE PUBLIC STATEMENT PARA 3 REFTEL D UPON SAFE RELEASE BY ELF OF MICHALKE, AND ELF MAY BE SO INFORMED BY GOS AT ITS DISCRETION. OUR EARLIER STATED READINESS TO MAKE THIS STATEMENT WAS CLEARLY CONTINGENT ON RELEASE BY ELF OF ITS AMERICAN CAPTIVES, WHO THEN COMPRISED TWO INDIVIDUALS AND STILL COMPRISE ONE.

6. RESPONSES ON FOOD AND MEDICINES PROPOSAL (REFS B AND F), AND ON PUBLIC STATEMENTS ISSUE DESCRIBED REF G, FOLLOW.

7. FOR DAMASCUS: FINAL TEXT OF STATEMENT PARA 3 ABOVE WILL ALSO BE CABLED TO EMBASSY TO UTILIZE AT ITS DISCRETION
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IN CONNECTION WITH ELF/PLF CONFERENCE COMMENCING IN DAMASCUS JAN 10. THE TWO MEN'S REFERENCE TO GOOD TREATMENT BY ELF, AND THEIR APPEAL FOR OTHER CAPTIVES' SAFE RELEASE, MAY HAVE SOME VALUE WITH ELF/PLF LEADERSHIP. KISSINGER

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